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# **Grasshoppers Swarm South Idaho**

#### **Agricultural Summary**

Grasshoppers have become a major problem for farmers and ranchers in South-Central and Southeast Idaho. Most crop damage occurs in fields that border rangeland. Mild temperatures last winter contributed to the infestation. Some areas have been sprayed, and County Extension Educators are providing bait to control the insects. For the week ending July 13, major agricultural activities included irrigating, cutting hay, preparing for grain harvest, and controlling insects and weeds.

## Soil Moisture and Days Suitable for Fieldwork

Topsoil moisture reported by County Extension Educators declined to 20% very short, 41% short, 39% adequate, and 0% surplus. Statewide, Idaho farmers had an average of 6.9 days suitable for fieldwork during the past week.

# Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Warm and dry conditions have resulted in reduced flow in many springs and streams. Some ranchers are worried about a lack of stock water. Fire danger and grasshopper infestations continue to concern livestock producers.

#### **Crop Progress Table**

Percentages	2003	2002	Avg.
Potatoes 12" High	98	94	86
Potatoes Closing Middles	81	60	50
Cherries Harvested	86	97	76
Winter Wheat Turning Color	59	57	48
Spring Wheat Turning Color	10	19	15
Barley Turning Color	21	26	20
Mint Harvest (1st cutting)	5	4	4

# **Field Crop Report**

Continued dry weather is stressing dryland crops, especially spring planted grains. Winter wheat harvest has begun in the Treasure Valley in Southwest Idaho and in a few fields in low elevations near Lewiston in North Idaho. Some dryland farmers in Southeast Idaho may start winter wheat harvest this week. Mealy bugs, a relatively new pest for Southeast Idaho, have been reported in barley fields in Bannock and Caribou Counties. Sugarbeet root maggots have been reported in Power County.

#### **Grain Progress Table**

	Booted	Headed	Turning Color
Winter Wheat	100	100	59
Spring Wheat	98	89	10
Barley	99	86	21

#### **Condition Table**

Percentages	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Winter Wheat	0	3	17	57	23
Spring Wheat	0	5	21	53	21
Barley	2	5	22	55	16
Potatoes	0	1	4	74	21
Irr. Water Supply	4	13	47	34	2
Range & Pasture	1	6	48	35	10

## **Crop Progress District Table**

Cross	North			Southwest			Southcentral			East			State		
Crop	2003	2002	Avg	2003	2002	Avg	2003	2002	Avg	2003	2002	Avg	2003	2002	Avg
Spring Wheat															
Headed	77	80	65	100	100	100	99	99	96	90	75	67	89	81	73
Barley															
Headed	76	74	58	100	100	99	98	99	96	83	75	69	86	81	75
Winter Wheat															
Harvested	1	0	0	5	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Alfalfa Hay															
1 <sup>st</sup> Cutting Harvested	98	77	80	100	100	100	99	99	100	97	96	90	98	96	94
2 <sup>nd</sup> Cutting Harvested .	5	0	2	75	80	71	56	58	58	7	5	6	35	35	32

Avg (1998-2002); NA = Very Small Percentage of Acreage in District.

Weather Data For The Week Ending Sunday, July 13, 2003 1/

		Temp	erature 2/		Grow	ing Degree	Days 4/		Pred	Precipitation (Inches)					
Station	High	Low	Ave.	Dept. 3/	40°	50°	Base	Total	Dept 3/	Month of		rch 1			
					Base	To Date	Normal			July	To Date	Normal			
North															
Coeur D'Alene	95	46	70	4	1773	825	717	0.00	-0.22	0.00	6.62	9.37			
Grangeville	88	51	69	5	1598	724	495	1.06	0.72	1.06	11.35	11.85			
Lewiston	101	55	78	5	2350	1229	1094	0.62	0.44	0.62	6.82	5.10			
Sand Point	94	45	69	5	1650	765	565	0.00	-0.38	0.00	10.90	10.45			
Southwest															
Boise	102	59	79	6	2450	1359	1024	0.00	-0.07	0.00	4.53	4.59			
Caldwell	100	52	76	2	2442	1324	1240	0.00	-0.06	0.00	2.24	3.80			
Emmett	101	58	79	7	2402	1325	1066	0.00	-0.06	0.00	4.82	4.52			
Mountain Home	106	57	81	8	2392	1359	1000	0.00	-0.09	0.00	3.56	3.68			
Parma	101	54	76	5	2515	1390	1005	0.00	-0.08	0.00	3.32	4.13			
Weiser	104	60	79	7	2552	1407	1030	0.01	-0.04	0.01	4.80	3.90			
Southcentral															
Buhl					1987	992	778	0.00	-0.07	0.00	2.43	3.82			
Burley	100	46	72	3	1835	914	767	0.00	-0.06	0.00	4.46	3.92			
Hill City	97	39	69	5	1302	580	432	0.00	-0.09	0.00	4.69	4.37			
Hagerman					2534	1423	1212	0.00	-0.07	0.00	2.13	3.43			
Malta	100	48	74	6	1970	987	777	0.00	-0.09	0.00	3.02	4.07			
Twin Falls	101	51	73	5	1896	970	721	0.00	-0.05	0.33	5.31	4.10			
East															
Aberdeen	91	41			1577	772	610	0.00	-0.06	0.00	2.48	3.87			
Grace	100	44	73	8	1602	812	499	0.00	-0.20	0.00	2.99	6.51			
Idaho Falls	96	42	69	1	1607	765	647	0.00	-0.10	0.00	2.63	4.65			
Malad City	101	46	74	5	1748	871	700	0.00	-0.20	0.00	2.46	5.88			
Pocatello	100	45	73	3	1792	914	738	0.00	-0.09	0.00	2.77	4.99			
Rexburg	95	44	68	2	1619	769	575	0.00	-0.15	0.00	3.66	6.00			
Salmon	99	46	71	3	1707	821	663	0.00	-0.16	0.00	0.36	5.06			

<sup>1/</sup> Weekly summary provided by the Western Regional Climate Center with data reported by the National Weather Service. When data is quality controlled by the National Climate Center the accumulated growing degree days and precipitation values are updated. 2/-- indicate missing or incomplete data. 3/ Weekly departure from normal. 4/ Totals from March 1. Growing degree days are estimated from neighboring sites for stations with missing or incomplete data. 5/ Precipitation totals are only for days reports were received, no estimates were made for missing data.

Daily High/Low Four Inch Soil Temperatures

Dully High 2011 I out then som temperatures																
Monda		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday		Sunday		rage <sup>1/</sup>
Station	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low
Emmett	94	81	94	83	94	82	96	82	97	83	97	85	98	84	96	83
Parma	70	69	71	70	71	70	71	70	71	70					71	70
Sandpoint	78	66	78	65	74	64	79	64	83	66	82	69	82	71	79	66
Twin Falls	83	64	87	67	83	68	86	67	0		79	63	80	65	71	56

<sup>1/</sup> Averages are only for days reports were received. -- Missing or Incomplete Data.

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